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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week
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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

6-2-1961

Bowman, Joe family television script

Howard Langfitt

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L Bowman

CONTINUITY

OR Farm Family of the Week
BY Howard Langfitt

TIME 12:25-1:00 p.m.
DATE Fri. June 2, 1961

VIDEO	AUDIO
CAMERA ON LANGFITT	I WANT TO SAY FIRST THAT I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO WALTHALL COUNTY AGENT MR. ANSEL ESTESS AND ASSOCIATE COUNTY AGENT SAM DYAR, FOR THEIR VERY FINE HELP IN SELECTING THE FAMILY WHICH WE SALUTE TODAY AND FOR GOING WITH ME TO THIS FAMILY'S FARM HOME TO HELP ME OBTAIN THE STORY WHICH I AM NOW GOING TO TELL. THIS IS THE STORY OF MR. AND MRS. JOE BOWMAN WHO LIVE IN THE UNION COMMUNITY OF WALTHALL COUNTY, TWO AND A HALF MILES NORTH OF TYERTOWN, MISSISSIPPI, ON HIGHWAY 27, WHERE THEY OWN AND FARM 151 ACRES OF WALTHALL COUNTY LAND. JOE BOWMAN SAYS HE WAS BORN IN LINCOLN COUNTY BUT WAS RAISED FROM ONE SIDE OF MISSISSIPPI TO THE BACKSIDE OF LOUISIANA AND EVEN INTO TEXAS AS HIS FATHER FOLLOWED SAW MILLING AS A PROFESSION. JOE SAYS HE FINISHED THE FOURTH GRADE AND HAS BEEN WORKING FOR HIMSELF EVER SINCE HE STARTED TOTTING WATER FOR NATALBANY LUMBER COMPANY AT NINE YEARS OF AGE. MRS. BOWMAN WAS MISS LILLIAN ALBRITTON BEFORE HER MARRIAGE TO JOE IN 1932 AND GREW UP IN THE SARTINVILLE AND UNION COMMUNITIES. JOE AND MRS. BOWMAN LIVE IN THIS COMFORTABLE COUNTRY HOME TODAY BUT IT HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN SO. WHEN THEY MARRIED JOE WAS A WAGE HAND FARMING BY THE
SLIDE <u>FARM-1</u> <u>MAN & WOMAN</u>	
SLIDE <u>FARM-2</u> <u>HOUSE</u>	

CONTINUITY

TIME _____

DATE _____

BY _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-3
HOUSE

DAY FOR 75¢ A DAY AND HE RECALLS THAT RIGHT AFTER THEY MARRIED HE WAS CUT TO 60¢ A DAY. JOE SAYS WE HAVEN'T GOT MUCH...AND THEN HE ADDS WITH CONSIDERABLE PRIDE...BUT WHAT WE'VE GOT WE'VE GOT BY WORKING. JOE AND HIS CHARMING WIFE FIRST MET WHEN HE WAS TWELVE AND SHE TEN. THEY MET WHEN JOE WENT TO AN UNCLE'S HOUSE TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY. JOE BOWMAN STARTED FARMING FOR HIMSELF THE YEAR HE MARRIED...HE ALSO HIRED OUT AS DAY LABOR THAT YEAR TOO. HIS PRIMARY FARM OPERATION WAS TRUCK FARMING. THE SECOND YEAR HE BOUGHT A TRUCK WITH \$100 HE BORROWED AND USED IT TO HAUL HIS VEGETABLES TO MARKET. JOE SAYS WHEN TIMES WERE HARDEST HE PEDDLED HOUSE TO HOUSE AND LATER WORKED THE STORES, SELLING WHOLESALE. AT ONE TIME JOE BOWMAN WAS THE BIGGEST TRUCK CROP FARMER IN WALTHALL COUNTY. JOE SAYS IN THE EARLY DAYS OF FARMING HE RAISED COTTON, CORN, TRUCK CROP AND DID ANYTHING TO MAKE A DOLLAR...HAULED COAL, SLAG. THE SECOND YEAR HE WAS MARRIED JOE AND ANOTHER FELLOW WORKED TOGETHER BUT THEN HE GAVE THAT UP AND FARMED FOR HIMSELF. HE DIDN'T OWN THE LAND. MRS. BOWMAN'S MOTHER WAS A WIDOW LADY AND THEY LIVED WITH HER AND JOE FARMED HER LAND. SHE HAD 50 ACRES AND THE FIRST YEAR JOE

SLIDE FARM-4
CATTLE

CONTINUITY

TIME _____

DATE _____

BY _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

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SLIDE FARM-5
COWS

SLIDE FARM-6
DAIRY BARN

ONLY HAD 17 ACRES IN CULTIVATION. IT WAS ABOUT FIVE YEARS BEFORE HE WAS ABLE TO BUY HIS FIRST LAND...40 ACRES. IN 1942 HE BOUGHT ANOTHER 73 ACRES AND TWO YEARS AGO ANOTHER 31 ACRES. MRS. BOWMAN'S MOTHER LEFT HER THE ORIGINAL 50 ACRES THEY STARTED OUT FARMING. IN 1945 JOE BOWMAN STARTED DAIRYING WITH 11 HEAD OF CATTLE...SIX IN THE BARN AT MILKING TIME. JOE SAYS HE MILKS THREE FRESH COWS AND THREE STRIPERS. HIS MILK CHECK THE FIRST MONTH WAS 80 SOME DOLLARS AND HE HAD ONE OF THE BEST TESTS OF ANYONE SHIPPING. JOE GREW INTO THE DAIRY BUSINESS AND AS HE DID HE CUT DOWN ON AND EVENTUALLY CUT OUT MOST OTHER FARM ENTERPRISES. HE RAISED COTTON AND CORN FOR 20 YEARS...FOR SEVERAL YEARS AFTER HE STARTED DAIRYING. JOE SAYS ONE OF THE REASONS HE QUIT ROW CROPPING WAS THAT HE LOST HIS LABOR AND IT WAS TOO EXPENSIVE TO GATHER WHAT HE COULD RAISE IN THE FIELD. HE QUIT TRUCK CROPS ABOUT THE SAME TIME BUT FOR SEVERAL YEARS HE USED HIS TRUCK TO HAUL FREIGHT AND EXPRESS. HE GAVE UP HAULING COMPLETELY AT THE END OF 1952, JOE BOWMAN GREW INTO THE DAIRY BUSINESS. HE BOUGHT SOME COWS BUT MADE SURE THEY WERE GOOD ONES...THAT THEY WERE ALL BANGS AND TB TESTED. RIGHT OFF HE BUILT THIS DAIRY BARN AND ALMOST FROM THE

CONTINUITY

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-7
COW IN BARN

BEGINNING HE HAS USED ARTIFICIAL BREEDING. JOE CULLS HIS HERD CLOSE AND IF THEY DON'T PRODUCE THEY CAN'T STAY. HE CULLS ON THE BASIS OF RECORDS, HEALTH AND AGE. HE HAS BEEN WEIGHING MILK EVER SINCE HE STARTED BUT DIDN'T KEEP RECORDS. IN FEBRUARY OF 1957 HE STARTED ON THE WEIGH-A-DAY-A-MONTH RECORD PROGRAM AND HAS BEEN ON IT EVER SINCE. JOE NOW HAS A HERD OF 69 HEAD AND IS MILKING 30 HEAD RIGHT NOW. AT THE PEAK PERIOD HE MILKS 35 OR 36 AND PLANS TO FURTHER INCREASE THE SIZE OF THE HERD. JOE WANTS TO KEEP AN AVERAGE OF 40 IN THE BARN ALL YEAR ROUND. HE HOPES TO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THAT BY THIS FALL. TWO NEIGHBOR BOYS, NORMAN MCDANIEL SHOWN HERE, AND BROTHER STANLEY, WHOM YOU'LL SEE IN A MINUTE, WORK FOR JOE. THEIR MOTHER IS A WIDOW AND JOE BOWMAN HAS EDUCATED THE TWO BOYS AND A SISTER. WHEN JOE BOWMAN BUILT THE BARN HE STARTED RIGHT OUT ON A FLUID MILK PROGRAM IN 1957 HIS HERD PRODUCTION AVERAGE WAS 6,006 POUNDS OF MILK PER COW PER YEAR...TODAY IT IS 7,890 POUNDS BROUGHT ABOUT BY CLOSE CULLING, GOOD BREEDING, FEEDING AND MANAGEMENT. HE HOPES TO HAVE A 10,000 POUND AVERAGE BY 1965 WITH NOTHING BUT JERSEYS IN THE HERD. IN APRIL OF

SLIDE FARM-8
BULK TANK

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-9
BOY

SLIDE FARM-10
CATTLE

SLIDE FARM-11
CALVES

SLIDE FARM-12
POND

SLIDE FARM-13
PASTURE

LAST YEAR JOE BOWMAN WENT BULK TANK AND PIPELIN. HE SAYS NOW HE WOULDN'T DAIRY WITHOUT IT. HE HAS ONE OF THE LOWEST BACTERIA COUNTS OF ANY DAIRYMAN IN THE COUNTY. HERE IS BROTHER STANLEY MACDANIEL, I MENTIONED A MINUTE AGO. STANLEY DOES MOST OF THE FEEDING AND HE AND HIS BROTHER BOTH MILK. ALL CATTLE ARE FED A 16% DAIRY RATION WHICH JOE HAS MIXED. THE PAST TWO YEARS HE HASN'T RAISED GRAIN BUT HAS CONCENTRATED ON HAY AND PASTURES. THE BOWMAN DAIRY HERD IS 95% JERSEY NOW. THEY ARE ALL GRADE COWS BUT OF GOOD BLOODLINES. HE KEEPS A REGISTERED JERSEY BULL AND JOE HAS ALWAYS SAVED HIS BEST HEIFERS FOR HERD REPLACEMENT. JOE GETS A 95% CALF CROP AND HE CALFHOOD VACCINATES. EVERY CALF IS HANDLED AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND TREATED ACCORDING TO ITS OWN INDIVIDUAL TEMPEREMENT. JOE SELLS SOME HEIFERS BUT KEEPS TEN TO TWENTY EVERY YEAR. WATER FOR THE LIVESTOCK IS SUPPLIED FROM THREE STOCK PONDS. THIS PARTICULAR ONE HAS THREE BIG SPRINGS WHICH FEED IT. IT IS ALSO WELL STOCKED WITH FISH AND FISHING IS GOOD. AT THE HOUSE JOE HAS A 31 FOOT WELL WITH WATER WITHING TWELVE FEET OF THE TOP OF THE GROUND. HE USES STOCK TANKS IN THE BARNYARD. PERMANENT PASTURE CONSIST

CONTINUITY

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TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-14
PASTURESLIDE FARM-15
OATSSLIDE FARM-16
MILLETSLIDE FARM-17
HAY IN BARN

OF 70 ACRES OF BERMUDA, DALLIS AND BAHIA GRASS WITH FESCUE, WHITE DUTCH AND CRIMSON CLOVER. JOE CLIPS THE PASTURES AND SPRAYS THEM FOR DOCK WHEN NEEDED. AND AS YOU CAN SEE IT REALLY PAYS OFF WITH BEAUTIFUL PASTURES. HE LINES HIS PASTURE AND FERTILIZES HEAVY. JOE HAS 10 PASTURE AREAS FOR ROTATION OF GRAZING AND HE IS CAREFUL NEVER TO OVERGRAZE. FOR TEMPORARY GRAZING JOE HAS 40 ACRES OF OATS AND RYE GRASS. HE CUTS HALF OF IT FOR HAY AND NITRATES THE REST AND CARRIES IT ON TO ~~EXT~~ MATURITY WHEN HE COMBINES IT TO SAVE ENOUGH SEED FOR THE NEXT YEAR'S PLANTING. JOE ALSO RELIES HEAVILY ON TEMPORARY SUMMER GRAZING AND WHERE HE CUTS OATS FOR HE HE FOLLOWS IT WITH MILLET. HE HAS SEVEN ACRES RIGHT NOW WHICH COULD STAND A GOOD WARM RAIN. EACH SUMMER JOE MAKES THREE OR FOUR PLANTINGS OF MILLET SO AS TO HAVE SOME COMING ON ALL SUMMER LONG. EACH YEAR JOE BOWMAN OF WALTHAM COUNTY PUTS UP ABOUT 2,000 BALES OF HAY...OATS, RYE GRASS, BROWN TOP MILLET AND BAHIA GRASS. AS COUNTY AGENT ANSEL ESTESS, SEEN HERE WITH JOE, POINTS OUT, WALTHAM COUNTY IS PUSHING A PROGRAM OF PROPER HAY HARVEST AND JOE IS FOLLOWING IT TO THE LETTER. HE CUTS IT IN THE EARLY BLOOM STAGE AND USES A

W L B T

CONTINUITY

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TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-18
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM -19
TIMBER

SLIDE FARM-20
GARDEN

SLIDE FARM-21
FREEZER

HAY CONDITIONER ON IT SO AS TO GET IT OUT OF THE FIELD IN A HURRY. JOE SAYS IT HAS GREATLY IMPROVED THE QUALITY OF HIS HAY. JOE BOWMAN ALSO HAS A GOOD TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT PROGRA HE HAS 20 ACRES..MOSTLY PINE AND A LITTLE HARD WOOD. HE THINS, WEEDS, CULLS AND SELECTIVE HARVESTS. JOE SAYS HE IS SAVING HIS TIMBER FOR HIS CHILDREN. THE BOWMAN'S HAVE TWO DAUGHT BOTH MARRIED...AND THREE GRANDCHILDREN. THE LAND IS FECNED AND CROSS FENCED. JOE HAS BUILT INCLUDING ALL THE BUILDINGS ~~EXEKEK~~ THE HOUSE AND IT WAS TORN DOWN AND MOVED BACK AND THE PRESENT HOME BUILT TWELVE YEARS AGO. THIS IS TRULY A LIVE AT HOME FAMILY AND THOUGH JOE AND HIS LOVELY WII DON'T TRUCK CROP ANYMORE THEY SURE HAVEN'T FORGC TEN HOW TO RAISE A GARDEN. THEY KEEP ABOUT AN ACRE OF GARDEN...SOME OF IT YEAR ROUND. IN THE WINTER THEY HAVE TURNIP AND MUSTARD GREENS. MRS BOWMAN ALSO KEEPS ABOUT TWENTY LAYING HENS FOR FRESH EGGS. THEY SELL THE SURPLUS. FROM THE GARDEN AND FAMILY MEAT SUPPLY MRS. BOWMAN EACH YEAR FREEZES ABOUT 900 POUNDS OF FOOD FOR THE FAMILY'S WINTER NEEDS. SHE ALSO PUTS UP SOME JAMS AND JELLIES IN JARS AND PLANS TO CAN SOME FOR THE DAUGHTERS THIS YEAR. MRS. BOWMAN ALSO

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-22
KITCHEN

ENJOYS COOKING IN HER MODERN KITCHEN. AS WE TALKED THE OTHER AFTERNOON I ASKED HER HOW DIFFERENT LIFE WAS FOR THEM TODAY THAN IT WAS WHEN THEY STARTED. SHE SAID WELL, MY MOTHER LET US LIVE WITH HER THE FIRST YEAR. SHE DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING BUT 50 ACRES OF LAND AND AN OLD RUNDOWN HOUSE. THEN SHE SAID...WHAT DID WE HAVE

SLIDE FARM-23
WOMAN

...WHY WE HAD EACH OTHER. SHE AND JOE SAY THE FIRST SEVERAL YEARS THEY ^{LIVED} ~~WORKED~~ LIKE MIZERS AND EVERYONE WORKED TO HAVE THE NECESSITIES OF LIFE. TODAY SHE HAS TIME TO ENJOY FLOWERS, BOTH IN HER HOME AND IN HER YARD. BUT THEY BOTH ARE QUICK TO SAY....WE HAVEN'T MINDED WORKING FOR WHAT WE HAVE...WE HAVE LEARNED TO APPRECIATE IT. MR.

SLIDE FARM-24
GIRLS

AND MRS. JOE BOWMAN ARE ESPECIALLY PROUD OF THEIR TWO DAUGHTERS, IRENE AND JOSEPHINE...BOTH OF WHOM ARE MARRIED. THEY ARE ENJOYING THE THREE GRAND CHILDREN TOO.....TWO GRAND DAUGHTERS AND ONE GRAND SON...AT LEAST THEY LOOK FORWARD TO EACH OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THEM ON THAT WALTHALL COUNTY FARM. MR. AND MRS. JOE BOWMAN BELONG TO THE UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH AND MRS. BOWMAN IS ACTIVE IN THE W.M.U. THEY BELONG TO THE FARM BUREAU AND JOE IS A DIRECTOR OF THE ARTIFICIAL BREEDING ASSOC. HE IS ALSO A PAST A.S.C. COMMITTEEMAN AND MEMBER

CAMERA ON FAMILY

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

OF THE COUNTY F.H.A. COMMITTEE. THEY HOPE TO BE ABLE TO KEEP IMPROVING THEIR FARM OPERATION AND HOPE THE LORD WILL GIVE THEM HEALTH ENOUGH TO ENJOY IT. JOE SAYS I JUST HOPE THE LORD WILL KEEP ME ABLE TO WORK UNTIL HE'S READY TO CARRY ME OUT OF HERE. JOE MOST ENJOYS WALKING DOWN IN THE PASTURE TO WATCH THE CATTLE GRAZING. HE SAYS COUNTY AGENT ANSEL ESTESS AND ASSOCIATE COUNTY AGENT SAM DYAR HAVE BEEN A BIG HELP TO HIM AND ANSEL ESTESS SAYS THIS ABOUT JOE...AND HE DOESN'T SAY IT CRITICALLY BUT WITH PRIDE IN A FARMER WHO IS AS SOLID AS THE ROCK OF GIBRALTE ANSEL SAYS OF JOE BOWMAN....HE'S A HARD HEADED FELLOW BUT ONCE HE GETS SOLD ON SOMETHING HE'S SOLD ALL THE WAY. HE DOESN'T JUMP AT ANYTHING. HE FIGURES IT THROUGH BEFORE HE GOES INTO IT. NOW, I WANT YOU TO MEET THIS FINE WALTHALL COUNTY FARM FAMILY.

1. JOE, WOULD YOU DO THE SAME AGAIN?
2. WHAT HAS BROUGHT YOU MOST ENJOYMENT OVER THE YEARS?
3. MRS. BOWMAN, WHERE ARE THE GIRLS AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
4. STANLEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF FARMING?
5. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU FINISH SCHOOL?